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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/525,335	09/19/2005	Noriyuki Kanno	05-212	3638
34704 7590 02/20/2007 BACHMAN & LAPOINTE, P.C. 900 CHAPEL STREET SUITE 1201 NEW HAVEN, CT 06510			EXAMINER BEAUCHAINE, MARK J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3653	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/20/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/525,335

Applicant(s)

KANNO ET AL.

Examiner

Mark J. Beauchaine

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 September 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 February 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/10/05 & 8/11/06.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

Receipt of Information Disclosure Submittals (IDSs) dated 10 November 2005 and 11 August 2006 is acknowledged. Since no English translation of Foreign Patent Document item 1 and items 3-5, respectively, have been received said documents have been placed in the file of record but have not been considered.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-11 are objected to because of informalities. The following terms are improper grammar:

“for switching self-holding circuit” (claim 1, lines 19 and 22),

“when trigger element” (claim 1, line 27),

“to control terminal” (claim 1, lines 29 and 30),

“controller 2 comprises” (claim 3, line 2),

“a inlet sensor” (claim 4, line 2),

“by opening-closing” (claim 7, lines 2 and 3), and

“for detecting human body” (claim 8, lines 3 and 4).

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The term "controller does not decide the paper inserted" (claim 2, lines 4 and 5) is ambiguous since it is not clear what characteristic of the paper is in question.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-5, 8-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WIPO Publication Number WO 92/09057-A1 by Barnes et al ("Barnes") in view of Patent Number 4,784,274 by Mori et al ("Mori"). The valuable paper discrimination device disclosed by Barnes comprises inlet 7, passageway (see Figure 4A), validation sensor 21 to produce a detection signal, stacking device and accumulation chamber

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(see page 66, lines 7-15), drive controller/self-holding circuit 11, and battery 14 (see page 8, lines 5-9).

Barnes further discloses trigger element/inlet sensor 21 for producing a pulse and switching a self-holding circuit between active and inactive conditions for interrupting a power supply (see page 13, lines 11-31), and shutoff circuit for switching said self-holding circuit to the inactive condition (see page 14, lines 11-21). Barnes further discloses a timer for counting the time elapse since the trigger element is turned on and switching said device from the active to inactive condition after the counter has counted a predetermined period of time (see page 14, lines 14-19).

Still further, Barnes discloses a first switching element connected in series between the battery and drive controller 11 and in parallel to the trigger element 21 (see Figure 5), and a second switching element 19 connected to a control terminal of the first switching element, wherein a control terminal of the second switching element is connected to the trigger element and shutoff circuit. Barnes also discloses an infr-red ray sensor for detecting a human body (see page 18, lines 9-13) for detecting a human body, and an AC power source converter (see page 65, lines 3-6; and page 68, lines 23-28).

Barnes fails to disclose a conveyor for transporting said valuable paper to a stand-by position. Mori teaches a valuable paper discrimination device comprising conveyor 6 for transporting said paper to stand-by position 2, 3 (see column 5, lines 38-45) for the purpose of preventing the removal of papers being processed. Mori further teaches said conveyor being rotated in the adverse direction when the controller does

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not decide the paper inserted from the inlet 1 is genuine (see column 5, lines 45-53). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the conveyor/stand-by position configuration of Mori into the device of Barnes for the purpose of preventing the removal of papers being processed.

Barnes fails to disclose a stack sensor. Mori teaches stack sensor SW1 for detecting paper stowed in paper accumulation chamber 12 to produce a detection signal (see Figure 1, column 4, lines 35-55) for the purpose of controlling the sheet-feeding operation of the device. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the stack sensor of Mori into the device of Barnes to control the sheet-feeding operation of the device.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barnes in view of Mori as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Patent Number

3,971,464 by Seversen ("Seversen"). Barnes/Mori fails to disclose a thyristor/gate terminal configuration. Seversen teaches a token actuated device comprising a self-holding circuit comprising thyristor 32; trigger element 2 is connected to gate terminal 3 of the thyristor (see Figure 2 and column 3, lines 34-52) for the purpose of effecting switch operations of the device. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the thyristor configuration of Seversen into the device of Barnes/Mori for the purpose of effecting switch operations of the device.

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Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barnes in view of Mori as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Patent Number 4,662,621 by Lundblad ("Lundblad"). Barnes/Mori fails to disclose a push button-operated trigger element. Lundblad teaches a discriminating device comprising a trigger element that is operated by pushing push button 24b provided in the vicinity of inlet 22 for inserting the paper (see Figure 9 and column 4, lines 30-33) for the purpose of activating the device. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the push button configuration of Lundblad into the device of Barnes/Mori for the purpose of activating the device.

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark J. Beauchaine whose telephone number is (571)272-6934. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM through 5:00PM Mondays through Thursdays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick H. Mackey can be reached on (571)272-6916. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

mjb



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